



# Charleston-Beaufort: Joint Venture Review



## 2011 VA/DoD Joint Venture Conference

**Naval Health Clinic Charleston;  
Ralph H. Johnson Veterans Affairs  
Medical Center;  
628 Medical Group, Joint Base  
Charleston;  
Naval Health Clinic Beaufort**



# CHARLESTON-BEAUFORT JOINT VENTURE



# Lowcountry Federal Healthcare Executive Council (LFHEC)

**Mission:** Enhancing delivery of quality, patient-centered health care through collaborative Federal and community partnerships

**Vision:** Blazing the trail in seamless Federal healthcare...for you!

- ❑ Platform for Joint Ambulatory Care Clinic (JACC), and June 2011, Charleston-Beaufort Joint Venture request/approval (effective 01 October 2011)
- ❑ LFHEC was Chartered October 2006 as the governing body to manage joint healthcare services and explore local Navy, Air Force and VA opportunities for collaboration. Members Include;
  - CO (Chair), Naval Health Clinic Charleston
  - CO, 628th Medical Group
  - Director, Ralph H. Johnson VA Medical Center
  - CO, Naval Hospital, Beaufort (member since October 2010)
  - Meets monthly and conducts Annual Strategic Off-sites
- ❑ LFHEC Standing Committees:
  - Quality of Care
  - Information Management Information Technology
  - Market Opportunities/Resource Sharing
  - Integrated Disability Evaluation System (IDES)





# Charleston-Beaufort: Joint Venture Review

## Joint Venture Performance Measures



### MARKET ACCESS TO CARE SNAPSHOT (SMART OBJECTIVES)

Location	Service	Wait Times/Access to Care	Data Source	Outcomes
JACC	MRI	DoD 28 days except ASAP Referrals VA 90% in 30 Days	VSSC , SHEP-RHJVAMC , CHCS M2	Value of Services Provided; Productivity of Service; Compliance with Access to Care Standards
JACC	Cardiology	DoD 28 Days VA 90% in 14 Days	VSSC , SHEP-RHJVAMC , CHCS M2	Value of Services Provided; Productivity of Service; Compliance with Access to Care Standards
JBC NWS	Optometry	DoD - 28 Days VA 90% in 14 Days	VSSC , SHEP-RHJVAMC , CHCS M2	Value of Services Provided; Productivity of Service; Compliance with Access to Care Standards



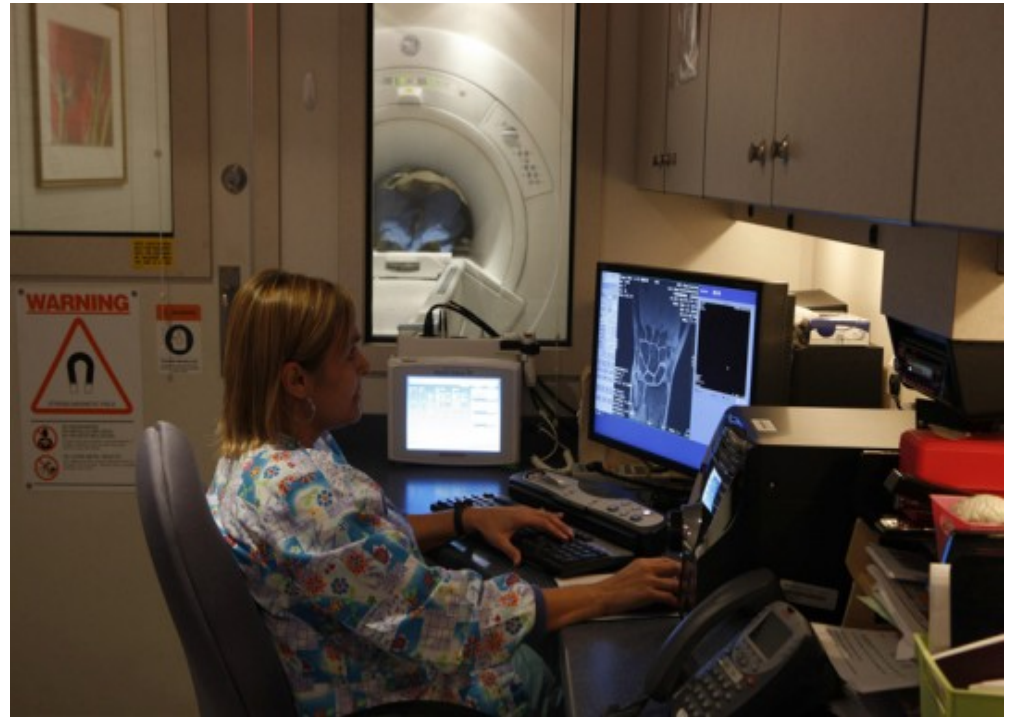
# Charleston-Beaufort: Joint Venture Review

## Mobile Magnetic Resonance Imaging (MRI)



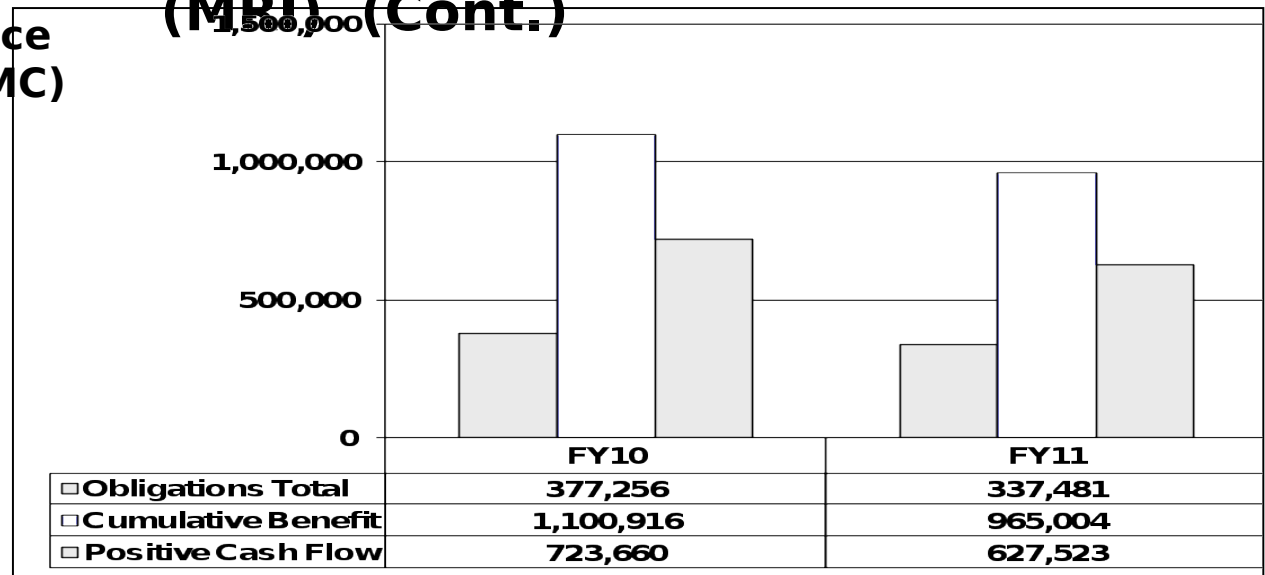
### Agreement:

- ☐ \$2.4M FY07 Joint Incentive Fund (JIF) project).
- ☐ Activated August 2008.
- ☐ Staffed by two VA MRI Technologists and NHCC Radiology front desk/check-in support.
- ☐ Two DoD and two VA MRI days/per week (alternate services on Fridays).
- ☐ Each organizations uses their own scheduling and priority system for appointing.
- ☐ Personnel and supply costs



# Mobile Magnetic Resonance Imaging (MRI) (Cont.)

**Cost Benefit Performance between (NHCC/RHJVAMC)**



## Baseline and Current Status:

❑ DoD FY 11 workload 1,088 studies in FY11 at a CMAC value of services produced of \$529,560. RHJVAMC FY 11 workload is 870 at the JACC MRI through 30 September 2011, value of care is 435,443.7.

## Quantitative Results from the Agreement:

❑ The continuing ROI is estimated to be 28% per year.

## Qualitative Value of the Agreement:

❑ Reduced DVA beneficiaries wait time from over 7 weeks to 4 weeks.

❑ DoD access to care - three weeks with two emergency same day slots available each week.

❑ Increased Coordination of Care/timely MRI results for both DVA and DoD beneficiaries.



# Charleston-Beaufort: Joint Venture Review VA/DoD Outpatient Cardiology Services (Non-Invasive)



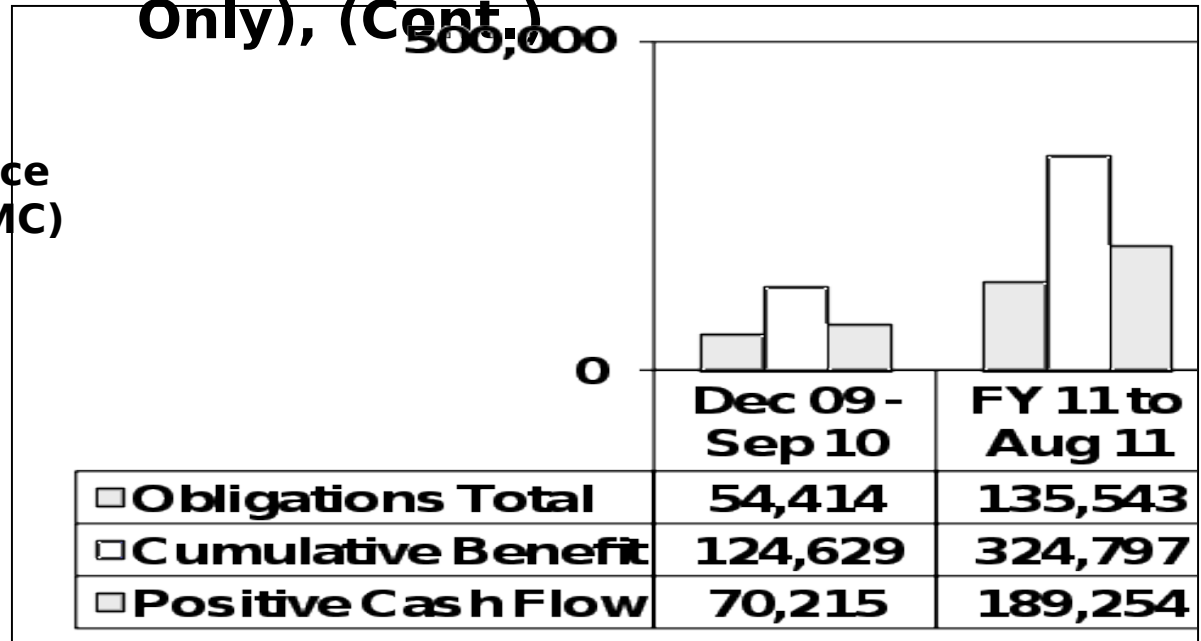
## Agreement:

- ☐ NHCC reimburses VA for labor hours expended by part time VA Cardiologist on DoD patients;
- ☐ VA reimburses for DoD support staff (Cardiovascular Technician and Internal Medicine Clinic RN oversight, and check-in services) and space used to treat VA patients;
- ☐ Activated December 2009;
- ☐ Two day/week operation with one day dedicated for VA and for DoD.
- ☐ Each organizations uses their own scheduling and priority



# Agreement: VA/DoD Outpatient Cardiology Services (Non-Invasive Only), (Cont.)

Cost Benefit Performance between (NHCC/RHJVAMC)



**Baseline and Current Status:** Combined VA/DoD- Value of care \$324,797, Combined labor expense provider \$135,543

**Quantitative Value of the Agreement:** : FY 11: 863 DoD encounters valued at \$163,095 and 393 VA clinic visits valued at \$161,702

**Qualitative Value of the Agreement:** Increased Coordination of Care/timely results for DVA and DoD beneficiaries





# Charleston-Beaufort: Joint Venture Review Agreement: VA/DoD Optometry Clinic

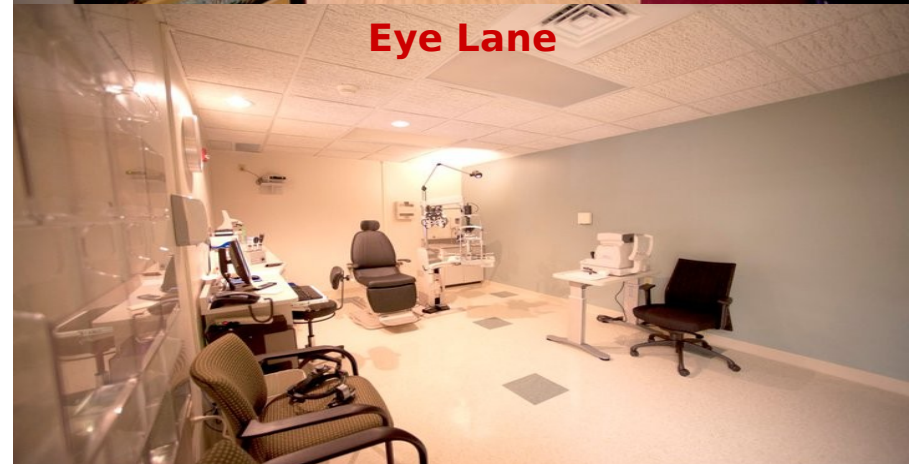


## Agreement:

- ☐ JIF funds still being utilized.

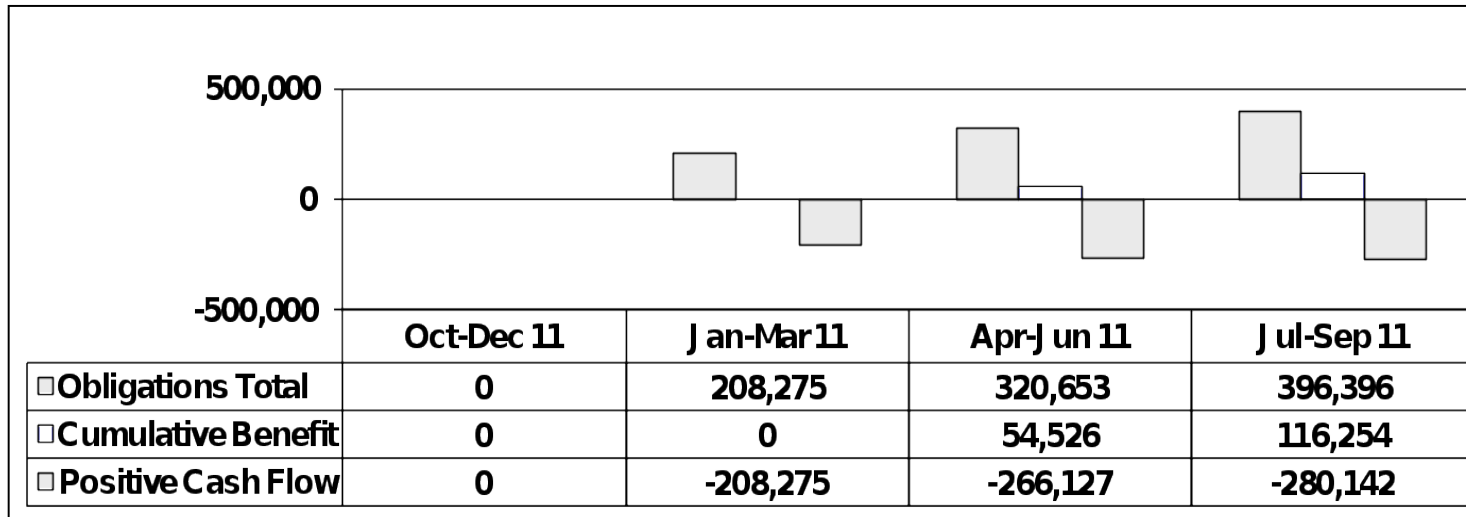
## Baseline and Current Status:

- ☐ Staffed by two VA Optometrists, Two VA Ophthalmology Techs, and one VA Program Support Assistant.
- ☐ Five day/week operation.
- ☐ Dedicated periods for VA and DoD using each organizations scheduling and priority systems for appointing.
- ☐ VA Optical Shop & Audio booth on-site.



# VA/DoD Optometry Clinic (Cont.)

## Cost Benefit Performance between (NHCC/ RHJVAMC)



### Quantitative Value of the Agreement:

- ❑ Services for **DVA** beneficiaries initiated in **April 2011**: 933 visits valued at \$97,917
- ❑ Services initiated for **DoD** beneficiaries **July 2011** 203 encounters valued at \$18,336.85
- ❑ Projected Savings/Benefits: Anticipated 25% return over variable expenses for recapture of TRICARE network expenditures
- ❑ Increased access to care for RHJVAMC new optometry patients seen within 30 days from 79% to 88% to be within VHA national standards

### Qualitative Value of the Agreement:

- ❑ DoD/DVA beneficiaries report high satisfaction with services.

# Naval Hospital Beaufort (NHB) Resource Sharing

## Cost Benefit Performance between (NHB / RHJVAMC )

**Service Provided:** Radiology, Optometry, Audiology, Podiatry; Beaufort Community Based Outpatient Clinic Space  
**Agreement:**



☐ RHJVAMC Beaufort CBOC is located within NHB occupying approximately 2,500 Sq. Ft; Location allows VA to provide accessible healthcare to over 3,485 veterans in the Beaufort area. Minimal cost to VAMC as the space was available due to programmatic changes over the years. Annual reimbursement to NHB for utilities, housekeeping and medical waste. FY11 Beaufort CBOC visits were 16,595.

☐ Integrated Phlebotomy services allowing seamless laboratory services for DoD and VA beneficiaries. FY11 6,692 VA lab visits.

**Baseline and Current Status:** Current Agreement is at BUMED Headquarters for final approval.

### **Quantitative Value of the Agreement: Radiology/Audiology/Podiatry/Optometry:**

☐ FY 11 (Oct – Jul) 828 Encounters for VA patients and reimbursement: \$74K; FY 11 reimbursement for space was \$26.8K. Total FY 11 Reimbursement to NHB \$100.8K.

☐ **Qualitative Value of the Agreement:** Increased VA patient compliance allowing BCBOC to provide DVA beneficiaries timely accessible quality patient centered care.



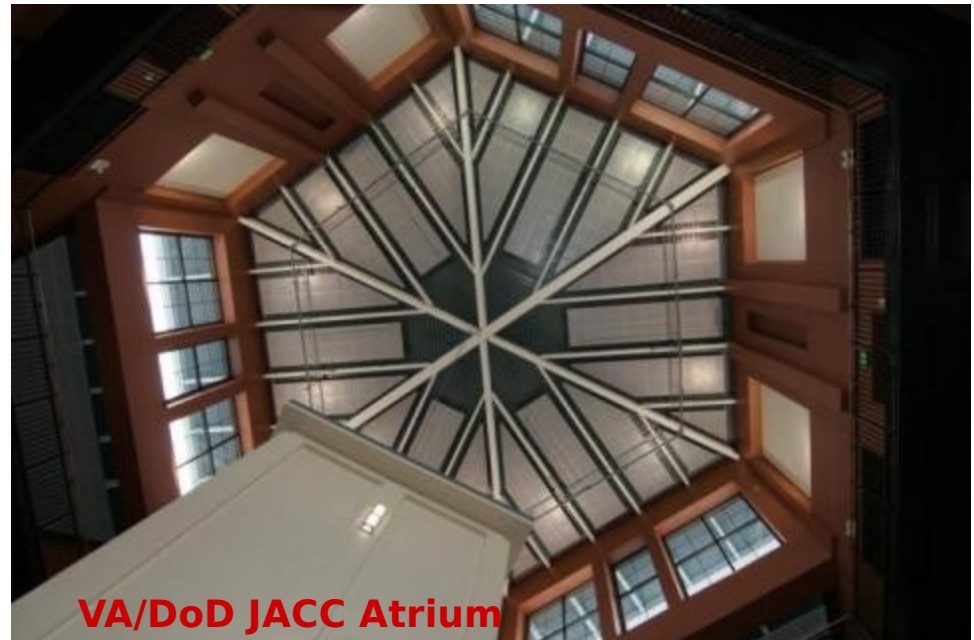
# Charleston-Beaufort: Joint Venture Review

## Patient Centered Focus



### Joint Ambulatory Care Clinic

- ❑ Opened September 2010; 188,000 sq ft / NHCC occupies 85%; RHJVAMC CBOC 15%
- ❑ Leased space: 384 VA Beneficiaries received Audiology services in FY11
- ❑ Shared Phlebotomy Services: FY11- DoD 20,144 VA: 12,076 | Total: 32,727
- ❑ 10 Day Pharmacy Scripts







# Charleston-Beaufort: Joint Venture Review

## Patient Centered Focus



### Joint Base Charleston

- ❑ 55 Audiology Clinic Stops at the Optometry Bldg in FY11 (Activated 8/2/2011)
- ❑ Since May 2010; a total of 312 disabled Veterans (first time users of their VA Optical Shop benefits) chose to use the new location in Goose Creek.
- ❑ VA Contract Optical Shop assisted 197 DoD patients with inquiries/price quotes, adjustments, and or repairs; of which 103 placed orders for glasses.
- ❑ Base Access Memorandum of Agreement (MOA) for Veterans, Veterans' families and guests, and for VA staff.



**Optometry Ribbon Cutting Ceremony  
2011**



# Charleston-Beaufort: Joint Venture Review



## Education/Training and Clinical Competencies

1. Charleston-Beaufort JV, AMSUS CME/CE Brief in Nov 2011
2. VA Memorandums of Understandings and Training Affiliation Agreements with Active/Reserve units to prepare for deployments
3. VA Consulting Pathology:
  - **628 MDG Consulting Pathologist:** 2009-FRS-0022 (01/01/2009 - 09/01/2013)
  - **NHCC Consulting Pathologist:** 2009-FRS-0035 (03/26/2009 - 03/26/2014)
  - RHJVAMC provides College of American Pathology (CAP) Laboratory Director consulting services on a reimbursable basis for both Navy and AF sites
  - The VA and DoD labs underwent successful CAP Inspections in FY11, in which there were minimal findings and recommendations
4. Continue to share Education and Training opportunities



# Charleston-Beaufort: Joint Venture Review

## Best Practices - Lessons Learned



### Best Practices:

- Establish Infrastructure
- LFHEC & Standing Committees
- Council with Strategic Goals
- Monthly Meeting Focusing on Activities
- MRI/Cardiology/Optomety
- Secured Access to DoD Bases
- Education and Training/Competency Programs

### Lessons Learned:

- Exclusionary Fiscal Processes/Seamless Flow of Money
- Service Footprint with Measurable Metrics
- Joint Basing Considerations
- Information Technology Interoperability
- Deployment and Staffing Turnover Impact



# Charleston-Beaufort: Joint Venture Review Future Initiatives and/or Proposals



## NEAR TERM (1-2 YEARS) INITIATIVES:

1. **FY 12 JIF Submission -Ophthalmologist - Charleston.** \$371,000 requested for an Ophthalmologist and advanced equipment at the JBC, NWS Joint Optometry Clinic. This one-stop-shop for VA/DoD patients would recover over \$216,000 in Fee/TRICARE network cost per year.
2. **FY 12 JIF Submission - MRI-Beaufort. \$2,273,070** requested Reduce Training time lost to MRI; Recover 95% TRICARE Network for MRI care for NHB (~\$533K/yr). Nuclear Med bone scans will likely undergo MRI in the future; Faster MRI results directly in CHCS/AHLTA & VISTA/CPRS. Recover MRI Fee based care (\$435k/yr) ; Improved MRI access and quality of care; Reduce Fee travel reimbursement by ~\$17,000/yr.
3. **Resource Sharing - RHJVAMC/NHCC - Plain films/CT**

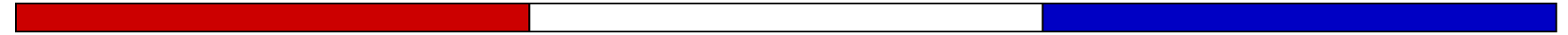
## LONG TERM (>2 YEARS) GOALS / INITIATIVES / STRATEGIES:

1. **Inpatient Services in Beaufort**
2. **Medical Home Collaboration**
3. **Beaufort Expansion and or co-location in new hospital**
4. **Expansion of VA/DoD Joint Ambulatory Care Clinic**





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## Charleston-Beaufort Joint Venture Thanks you!